

CIVIL WAR 1865

DRAWER 98-~~contd~~

WAR EPISODES

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Civil War Episodes

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Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
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ITEMS FROM THE FRONT. *Washington, March 31.* President Lincoln has not returned from Virginia. It is said on Wednesday he rode out to the front with a number of military officers.

It is reported, but not authenticated, that the rebels on Wednesday night made several attempts to break through our lines in the neighborhood of Fort Steadman, but our forts and artillery opened on them a terrible fire, which as often drove them back in confusion until they abandoned the contest.

During the month of March, 2860 deserters from Lee's army were received in this city, to all of whom the oath of allegiance was administered. This is a considerable increase over the month of February, during which only 1289 were received.

BOSTON ADV

THE PRAIRIES ON FIRE.

The Home of President Lincoln Aroused.

SHIPMENT OF PROVISIONS TO THE SOUTH FORBIDDEN. 4/22/65

A letter from Chicago, dated the 19th inst., states that the Banks of that city have offered \$500,000 to the State, and will double the amount if needed.

A great demonstration took place at Bryan's Hall last night. Ten thousand dollars were raised on the spot for the outfit of the volunteers. The quota of Chicago are ready to march today at the word of command.

All shipments of provisions to the South are forbidden. The Vigilance Committee have given notice to the Railroads that no more food can pass out of Illinois in that direction.

The people are a unit in the grand movement to sustain the Government. At the meeting mentioned nine rousing cheers were given for Old Massachusetts, and nine more for Major Anderson.

Illinois alone will furnish the whole 75,000 troops called for by the President, if necessary.

News of the fight at Baltimore has just been received—likewise rumor of an attempt to take the Arsenal at St. Louis.

Gov. Yates has notified our troops to be ready at a moment's warning. It is expected he will send 5000 troops to guard the St. Louis arsenal.

THE ESCAPE AND PURSUIT OF LEE—THE ARMY OF
THE POTOMAC.

The President is said to be "greatly depressed" because Gen. Meade did not attack Lee on this side of the Potomac; Gen. Halleck is said to have borrowed a message from Napoleon, and sent word to Gen. Meade to attack first and hold his council of war afterward; and the administration writers accordingly heap volumes of censure upon Gen. Meade for permitting Lee to recross the Potomac without another battle. On the other hand, it is stated that one of Meade's generals, in the council of war, deemed the situation so little favorable for an attack, that he recommended preparations against an assault from Lee himself.

The retreat of Lee appears to have been conducted in a leisurely manner. On the 15th, his army was stretched between Martinsburg and Winchester; his trains had been sent down the Shenandoah valley. On the 16th, Gen. Gregg moved from above Williamsport across the Potomac, to make a sweeping raid on the enemy's rear; and between Shepherdstown and Martinsburg he came in contact with the entire body of Stuart's cavalry. A severe engagement ensued, lasting several hours. Gen. Gregg's communications with our main body were, for a while, cut off, but he relieved himself from his position with success. On the 19th, a Washington dispatch said, the bulk of Lee's army still remained at Winchester, and there was also quite a large rebel force at Bunker Hill, which is between Winchester and Martinsburg. The enemy's rear guard left Martinsburg on the 18th. A dispatch from Hagerstown the 19th, says that our whole force was across the Potomac, which was falling rapidly. A Washington dispatch of the 20th said Lee's movements were enveloped in as much mystery as were his operations in the Shenandoah valley prior to advancing into Maryland and Pennsylvania, and so far as we are concerned, Meade's are wrapped in equal mystery. A Washington paper of the same date, however, stated that our army was not so far in Lee's rear as was generally supposed, and that collisions were liable to occur.

60 YEARS AGO TODAY

APRIL 29, 1865.

WASHINGTON.—Secretary of War Stanton announced the surrender of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. He made public a telegram from Gen. Grant dated at Raleigh, N. C., which reads: "Johnston surrendered the forces in his command, embracing all from here to the Chattahoochee, to Gen. Sherman on the basis agreed upon between Lee and myself for the Army of Northern Virginia. According to information reaching Fortress Monroe, Grant had put an end to the armistice arranged between Gens. Sherman and Lee by giving Johnston until a certain time to surrender or hostilities would be resumed. Johnston at first said that if Jefferson Davis and leading officers of the confederacy were pardoned and permission given them to leave the country, he would be authorized to accept the terms.

ST. LOUIS.—A New Madrid dispatch announces a horrible catastrophe down the river. The steamer Sultana exploded its boilers, burned and sank ten miles from Memphis early on the morning of April 27. On board were 2,000 exchanged soldiers and about 1,000 civilians, including twelve ladies and children. It is believed that from 500 to 700 will include the full number saved of the whole boatload. Another report fixed the number of dead at 1,400.

CLEVELAND, O.—The train bearing the remains of President Lincoln arrived here on scheduled time. As the train came into the city it ran between lines of people extending five miles beyond the suburbs, all eager to get a glimpse of the funeral car.

WASHINGTON. — President Johnson issued a proclamation changing the date fixed for a day of national humiliation and prayer because of the assassination of President Lincoln, from May 25 to June 1. He said his attention had been called to the fact that the former date is sacred to a large number of Christians as one of rejoicing for the ascension of the Savior.

